

BAT SCAN



Sioux City, Iowa

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Col Tom Considine
Wing Commander
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Maj Bruce Scheid
Public Affairs Officer
TSgt Gene Ambrosion
Public Affairs NCOIC
SSgt Kevin Heineman
Public Affairs
Lt Col Dick Fechter
Special Projects
SSgt Raegan Launderville
Historian

VISUAL INFORMATION

SMSgt Donald Keeler
Photographer
MSgt Scott Haberer
Photographer
SrA Oscar Sanchez
Photographer
TSgt Bill Wiseman
Photographer
MSgt Clark Rupert
Videographer
TSgt Vince DeGroot
Videographer

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Wing Commander Tom Considine receives the Hall of Fame Award given to the unit by United Way of Siouxland. (photo - left to right: Garrett Smith - American Popcorn Co / United Way Campaign Chairman 2000, COL Tom Considine, Tim Stiles Secretary - United Way of Siouxland)

Great gain in United Way Giving

Giving to the United Way by members of the 185th is up almost 20 percent! We have raised a total of \$25,293 up \$4000 from the previous year. United Way of Siouxland raised \$3.15 million during its 2000-2001 campaigns. The agency also recruited more than 40 new companies which raised a combined \$100,000 in new funds for the campaign.

According to Tim Stiles, United Way of Siouxland Executive Director, the 185th Fighter Wing was inducted into the United Way Hall of Fame this year.

"The 185th has a reputation for community volunteerism with in-kind services to United Way..." Stiles said. "It has always been one of the strongest supporters of our United Way campaigns in the government sector and has had volunteers in leadership roles in both United Way's campaign cabinet and allocation boards."



COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

As most of you know, 2001 was proclaimed the Guard's Year of the Employer. It is especially fitting that we follow the "Year of the Family" with the "Year of the Employer." Without the help of our families and bosses, we wouldn't be the strong organization we are. Siouxland has very supportive employers and we need to say thanks. We have a few ways you can say thanks to your boss. First, the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve sponsors local and national awards. The local award is called "My Boss is a Patriot." This award consists of a nice certificate and a lapel pin. We have given a few of these, but I'd like to see all of our employers receive one. The ESGR web site (www.esgr.org) explains all about the awards. Maj Kerry Gill has agreed to help out as well and you can reach her at 0738 on drills. I would really like to see one of our employers receive one of the other awards. Second, we have requested a bosslift aircraft during our Volk deployment. If your boss might be interested, contact Maj Rhonda Briggs at 0809. You may have seen the Year of the Employer coin for sale for \$5 in the dining hall. The NCOAGA has the coins for sale, contact either CMSgt Slagle at 0617 or MSgt Petrina Merritt at 0767. If you have another idea how we can recognize your boss call Col Menefee 0725, Maj Briggs 0809 or me 0501.

Going from bosses back to families, we have tentatively planned the 185th Family day to coincide with the airshow on 9 September. We don't have all of the details worked out, but would like to start the day with church services, a breakfast, open house and the airshow featuring the USAF's Thunderbirds. We are going to host former members that same weekend when they celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Korean War call-up. Mark your calendars. Thank you for all your hard work. I look forward to the upcoming events.

Chapel Call

The Great Seal of our republic has as its centerpiece an eagle, and in one claw, the eagle is holding an olive branch; in the other, it is holding arrows. If you look at a rendition of the Great Seal in our earlier days, the eagle is always looking at the arrows, because after all, the British were burning the White House, and we were having all kinds of problems. At the end of World War II, President Harry Truman noticed a rendition of the seal in the White House. He decided to change it. He wrote an executive order and got the Congress to support it. He decreed that henceforward, in any official rendering of the Great Seal, the eagle would always be looking at the olive branch to show that the U.S. will always seek peace. But the eagle would also hold on to the arrows, to show that the U.S. understands that if we are going to be effective in seeking peace, then we must have strength.

This is exactly what the Air National Guard is all about. We are to be the hometown source of assurance of peace. We train for war so that we will, hopefully, never have to fight. Jesus taught that we are to love our enemy, and we should always seek that path first. However, our being in the military service of our country is recognition of the truth that peace is not always available to us. We train and prepare to be called into service to defend and preserve the peace that we seek. I try to keep the old SAC motto in mind, "Peace is our Profession." Keep strong. Stay faithful. Remember our core values: "Integrity First," "Service Before Self," and "Excellence In All We Do."

*Chaplain Muller
Love God!*

FITNESS CENTER

The 185th Fitness Center is open to anyone eligible for a DEERS ID card over the age of 14, and state employees and their dependents over the age of 14. The state employees will be asked to provide a list of dependents interested in using the facility to the Fitness Committee. Starting 1 October 2001, no one will be allowed to use the facility unless they possess a military ID, DEERS Dependent ID card or are on the approved list at Security Police.



COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT COMMENTS

At a Commander's Call on base a few years ago, an airman, when called up in front to be recognized publicly for some achievement, was heard to say "In 12 years with this unit, this is the first time anyone has recognized me." Maybe we don't always take advantage of opportunities to thank and recognize our troops.

Before I go any further, I'd like to publicly congratulate the Wing Selections for the Airman of the Year (AOY) competition. They are:

SRA Charles Griminger, Airman Category
TSgt Connie Miller, NCO Category
MSgt Tom Baker, SNCO Category
**MSgt Mike Schreck, First Sergeant of
the Year Category**

These selections are to be considered the "Best of the Best" of their categories. The selections are always very difficult. All the applicants are outstanding. However, we don't always take advantage of the situation. Several of the areas around base did not submit applicants to the

various categories. I believe this is another missed opportunity to recognize our troops. At the very least, these applicants could be recognized as AOY selections in their squadrons.

The Wing selections were then forwarded to the State level, where they entered competition with the 132nd and 133rd. I am involved in this selection process, and it's one of my least favorite duties as a CCM. Not because I have to travel to State H.Q. at the STARC Armory. I actually enjoy that. Maybe it's a little like being a judge for the Miss America pageant. Heck, they all look great. Well, so do the packages that we have to review! Sometimes it comes down to the smallest of details. Competition is really stiff. Well, having said all that....I'd like to tell you that MSgt Tom Baker, Wing First Sergeant, was selected as the State Airman of the Year winner for the SNCO Category. An honor WELL deserved. To those others who were not selected, please understand there was about a mouse hair difference between your packages and those of the selected.

One final thought. To those in positions to do so, take every available opportunity to recognize your troops. It can only boost morale.

CMSgt Brendan R. Burchard
Command Chief Master Sergeant

PILOT POSITIONS NOW OPEN

Interested in flying for a career? The 185th Fighter Wing, Iowa Air National Guard in Sioux City, Iowa is holding a pilot selection board in April of 2001 for undergraduate pilot training positions for the year 2003 to fly the KC-135. Minimum qualifications are: 20/50 vision correctable to 20/20, 96 hours of college credits, under age 28 years at time of interview, and Air Force Officer Qualification Test (AFOQT) completed by time of interview. Contact MSgt Sue Meyer at suzanne.meyer@iasiou.ang.af.mil or 712-233-0201 for application. All applications must be received by March 20th, 2001. The Selection Board will send out invitations for interviews on March 23rd, 2001. It is anticipated the Selection Board will convene on April 7th and April 8th of 2001.

Soup Kitchen Volunteers Needed

WHEN: 9 April 2001

TIMES: 1400-1530 (Meal Preparation) (4-6 Volunteers) and 1700-1830 (Serving and Clean-up) (10-12 Volunteers)

If you would like to volunteer, please call 233-0844 or E-Mail, MSgt Barbara Welsh at barbara.welsh@iasiou.ang.af.mil



Air Show Set for September

The 185th FW is sponsoring the 2001 Air Show. The date has been set for the weekend after Labor Day - September 8 and 9.

By the 185th sponsoring the event it automatically means that admittance to the grounds and show will be free! A separate corporation has been formed to deal with revenue generating ideas and necessary expenditures. Any profits made will be split among several non-profit organizations in Siouxland.

According to Air Show Coordinator, Lt Col Dick Fechter, "We are sponsoring the show for many reasons. Certainly the main one is to allow our Guard families and the general public the opportunity to see what the 185th is all about. Certainly, there are additional reasons – it's great family entertainment. It also helps promote Sioux City, the airport, tourism and the military in the area."

Lt. Col Fechter says he has landed the Thunderbirds as one of the main attractions for the Air Show. (More on that in subsequent Bat Scans.) This USAF team has proven to be very popular. The precision flying team rounds out a full compliment of aircraft – B-25, P-51, A-10, F-14 among many more.

Lt Col Fechter is asking unit members to check with friends or relatives who are on active duty to see if they might be interested in displaying aircraft during the Air Show.

One of the fun aspects of the Air Show is an opportunity to be involved in underwriting sponsorships and chalets. In doing so, it provides a prospective sponsor the unique opportunity to tailor-make a message to an audience. Some 30,000 people are expected to flow through the 2-day event, giving sponsors great exposure.

According to Lt. Col Fechter, "Sponsorship provides a company unique marketing and advertising opportunities. For example, they might bring in a P-51 and provide rides to their best customers or employees. They might sponsor the Jet Truck and have it visit their place of business and provide some lucky person a 300-mph ride before the show. This type of advertising can make front-page news in all the media and that's the best advertising for any business."

Should you know of an individual or business that might want to become involved – please contact Lt Col Dick Fechter at (712) 233-0324.

Next month – more about the USAF Thunderbirds.



A Recruiter ... and More

SRA Dan Roupe has not only been a member of the 185th for the past 3 years, he is currently a recruiter. Dan also holds the rank of 3rd Degree Senior Black belt in Tae Kwon Do and is a certified instructor. Dan started training at the age of 12 in Sioux City. At this time he studies at the Siouxland Tae Kwon Do Center. For the past 14 years, he has been teaching others about the art of Tae Kwon Do, and has started a Tae Kwon Do program here at the 185th. You will find Dan and the ten members of his class, every Tuesday and Thursday in the Avionics Classroom from 4:30 to 5:30.

Dan was motivated to start the class because he enjoys sharing his knowledge with others. Dan states, "I wanted to form a structured physical fitness program for full time personnel. I thought since I was a new recruiter it would be a good way for me to meet and bond with members of the unit."

According to Dan, there are many different reasons why one would like to get involved in the program. "Self discipline and belonging to a group is important to a lot of people.



Some people get involved to improve their flexibility and balance. One good thing about Tae Kwon Do is you excel at your own pace. You don't have to worry about other people, and you can focus on your own strengths and weakness. I feel that the benefits you receive are self-respect, self-esteem, flexibility and fitness."

Dan's students advance in the program by following

a structured curriculum which they must meet. The students must attend so many classes regularly in order to test and advance to the next rank.

In the Tae Kwon Do program there are 10 different colored belt ranks and 9 different black belt ranks. The lowest ranking is the white belt and the highest ranking is the black



belt. It takes about 12 weeks to test for the next level and 3 years for a black belt.

Christy Berger (one of Dan's students) states, "It's been fun building camaraderie with other members of the unit." She currently holds the yellow belt rank.



"I really enjoy teaching the class on base, because all of the students are really hard workers. We have a really good time in class, and it is so nice to see them progress in the program. It gives me

great satisfaction seeing students progress within their own ability," Dan said proudly. If you are interested in getting involved, call Dan at 233-0538.

Wendy Thompson



Question of the Month

Where do you work and what do you do in the civilian world?



TSgt Mary Baker/JA
Woodbury County Attorney's Office
Legal Secretary



TSgt Lewis Waters/QA
J.L. Lewis Drafting & Design
Business Owner



Maj Merrill Muller/HC
Goodwill Industries
Director of Marketing and
Public Relations



SrA David Ruff/LG
United States Post Office
Mail Carrier



MSgt William Butters/LG
United Parcel Service
Truck Driver



TSgt Dennis Feauto/SP
Sioux City Police Department
D.A.R.E. Officer



TSgt Lariviere/FM
Washington Elementary
Kindergarten Teacher's
Assistant

GUARD MEMBERS GET NEW RETIREMENT BENEFIT

Traditional Guard members will soon get a new retirement benefit: participation in the Federal Government's Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). The TSP provides an outstanding opportunity to build a supplemental retirement fund. Investments in the plan reduce current taxable income; the government may match all or part of the investment; and investments and earnings grow tax deferred until withdrawn.

The TSP is a retirement savings and investment plan offering the same type of savings and tax benefits many private corporations offer their employees under so-called "401(k) plans."

The TSP is a "deferred compensation" plan, meaning that the service member defers receiving some of their pay by investing it in the plan. This lowers the member's current taxable income, producing immediate tax savings. Even better, since the contribution is pre-tax income, the entire contribution is invested, rather than the net amount left over after paying federal and state income tax.

The TSP is in addition to, and differs from military retired pay. Participation in the TSP is not automatic. Members must sign up for the TSP through their service. Military retired pay is a "defined benefit program", meaning that the amount of retired pay received upon retirement (benefit) is based on the member's years of service and rank, rather than the amount of contributions and earnings. The TSP is a "defined contribution plan", meaning that the amount received from the TSP upon retirement depends upon the amount contributed to the plan and the profits earned by investing those contributions.

Members will initially be able to contribute up to 7 percent of the basic pay they earn each month. For members who have a civilian TSP account or similar qualified employer plan, the total contributed to all such plans cannot exceed the IRS's elective deferral limit, currently \$10,500 per year. Members in critical military specialties may also be eligible for government matching contributions. TSP accounts can be invested in one or more of 5 different investment funds.

Service members can enroll in the TSP during a special 60-day enrollment period, known as an open season, from October 9 - December 8, 2001. Contributions will be deducted from paychecks starting January 2002. Thereafter, members will have two open seasons per year to enroll in the TSP, currently May 15 - July 31 and November 15 - January 31.

More information is available on the TSP's website at: www.tsp.gov. Click on the "Uniformed Services" link on the TSP homepage.

*By Major Paul L. Pullum
Judge Advocate*

News from the Home Front - Family Readiness

The State Family Readiness Conference will be held at the Four Points Sheraton, 4800 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines, Iowa, 20-22 April 2001. Military members and their supporters, such as spouses, parents and significant others are encouraged to attend. Attendees pay a non-reimbursable registration fee of \$15.00. Lodging, per diem, and mileage will be provided for qualified attendees, and military members can attend with their supporter at no additional cost, other than the \$15.00 registration fee if they plan on attending the Saturday luncheon. You may pick up registration forms from MSgt Lori Risdal, Bldg 269 (Headquarters), room 3. Completed forms and registration fees must be returned no later than 15 March 2001. For more information about the conference, check out our website at http://www.185fw.ang.af.mil/family/state_conf/conference.htm, or contact MSgt Risdal at 712-233-0502.

The Annual Family Information Fair will be held on Saturday, 5 May. This gives members and their families the opportunity to take care of ID cards, legal, financial, and other family readiness issues. We will have an activity area for children. The Fair will run from 1300 - 1500, in Bldg 269 (Headquarters), but we will have briefings, such as Financial Management, scheduled earlier in the day.

The STARBASE Camp for 5th & 6th graders of military members will be held at Camp Dodge (just north of Des Moines) 24-29 June 2001. This camp is offered at no cost to military members. This is the last year 6th graders will be allowed to attend, so 5th graders need to apply this year if they want to attend. You can pick up application forms at Bldg 269 (Headquarters), room 3. Forms must be returned no later than 30 April 2001. A picnic will be held on June UTA to allow everyone attending to get acquainted. For more information on STARBASE, contact our website at 185fw.ang.af.mil/family/starbase/starbase.htm, or contact MSgt Risdal at 712-233-0502.

OPENING FOR COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT

Applications are being accepted now through 18 March for the position of 185th Fighter Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant. This is a *traditional guard position*, and Chief Master Sergeants or Senior Master Sergeants eligible for promotion are encouraged to apply. Candidates should submit a resume, letter of intent and Record of Individual Personnel (RIP) to MSgt Lori Risdal, Bldg 269, room 3. A selection board will convene in April.

If you have any questions regarding this position, see ANGI 36-2109, The ANG Command Chief Master Sergeant Program.

MSgt Lori Risdal
185FW/CC-SEC
DSN: 585-0502 COMM: 712-233-0502
lori.risdal@iasiou.ang.af.mil

Office of Personnel Management

The government has expanded the United States Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) **services for federal retirees**. The Online site for to visit for information is: www.servicesonline.gov/mainris.htm

185FW/PA
2920 Headquarters Ave
Sioux City, IA 51111-1300

Annual Guard and Family Fishing Frenzy

The annual Fishing Frenzy will be 16 June 2001 at Fort Randall, in Pickstown, South Dakota. There is a \$5.00 entry fee. Any Guard member, their family members, or retirees are invited to attend. Anyone interested in attending or for more information, please contact one of the following individuals:

Lt Col Mark Foreman – ext. 0600
TSgt David Kenagy – ext. 0711
SSgt Duane Cardwell – 0715
SMSgt David Miller – 0616
TSgt Shelby Johnson – 0612.

PROMOTIONS

SMSgt Mark Bumsted
SMSgt Steven Anderson
MSgt Keith Swanson
MSgt David Young
MSgt Timothy Ireland
TSgt Lance Larson
TSgt Brian Smith
TSgt Troy Frick
TSgt Patrick Schroeder
SSgt Janet Costello
SSgt Angela Baker
SRA Stephanie Bousquet
A1C Aaron Barge

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